

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Tuesday, November 13, 2012.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Emmett V. Jordan, Leta M. Mach, Edward V.J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts, Silke I. Pope, and Mayor Judith F. Davis.

ALSO PRESENT were Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; David Moran, Assistant City Manager; John Shay, City Solicitor; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

Mayor Davis asked for a moment of silence in memory of former Greenbelt resident Peter Ladnier. She then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Mr. Putens moved that the consent agenda be approved. Mr. Jordan seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Work Session, August 20, 2012

Work Session, October 15, 2012

Work Session, October 17, 2012

Regular Meeting, October 22, 2012

Approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Youth Advisory Committee, Report #2012-2 (Curfew Law): Council accepted this report and will consider it on the agenda of a future meeting.

Youth Advisory Committee, Report #2012-3 (Ideas on How the Youth Advisory Committee Might Become a More Active Group): Council accepted this report and will consider it on the agenda of a future meeting.

RENEWAL OF FIRE DEPARTMENT LEASE: Council approved the renewal of the City's lease with the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad for another two year term and authorized the City Manager to sign the lease on the City's behalf.

CITIZENS REQUESTS FROM OCTOBER 22, 2012, MEETING

Request from Barbara Simon and Frank Gervasi: Council referred these requests to staff for consideration during the development of the Greenbelt Theater renovation plans and scheduling of the project.

Request from John Abell: Council referred this request to the City Solicitor to determine the legal aspects of establishing a policy on the reporting of specific crimes to the community. Dependent on the findings of the City Solicitor, all or portions of the request may later be referred to the Community Relations Advisory Board.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES, REPORT #2011-4 (SUBSTITUTION OF CMA FOR ROCK SALT IN DEICING OF ROADS, USE OF PICKUP TRUCKS): Council approved staff's recommendation that Public Works continue with the use of CMA for sidewalk snow removal operations and rock salt for street snow and ice removal operations, schedule training for all snow removal personnel to review the proper application methods for snow and ice products, and continue to monitor industry technology advances in snow operation products and methods.

REAPPOINTMENT TO ADVISORY GROUP: Council appointed Robert Rudd to a new term on the Employee Relations Board.

RESIGNATION FROM ADVISORY GROUP: Council accepted the resignation of Darrin Washington from the Public Safety Advisory Committee.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Putens moved the agenda be approved. Mr. Jordan seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS

Municipal Government Month Proclamation: Mayor Davis read a proclamation to recognize November as Municipal Government month. Beverly Palau, Public Information and Communications Coordinator, received the proclamation and provided an overview on City events to celebrate Municipal Government Month.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Bill Orleans, Greenbelt, reported that City staff had issued him a citation for scavenging several weeks ago. He advised that he had refused to receive the citation personally at that time. Mr. Orleans requested the citation be mailed to him. Staff will take the request under advisement.

MINUTES: None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. McLaughlin announced that the Community Visioning Events would be held this Saturday at the Municipal Building, Springhill Lake Recreation Center and Greenbriar Community Building.

COUNCIL REPORTS: Councilmembers commented on their attendance at the following events.

Community Health Fair – Mayor Davis and Ms. Mach
Prince George’s County School Board Meeting – Ms. Mach
Purple Rail Alliance Meeting – Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan and Ms. Mach
District of Columbia Coop Day – Ms. Mach
Greenbelt Consumer Cooperative Annual Meeting – Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan and Ms. Mach
TapRoots Water Measuring Equipment Installation/3 Sisters – Ms. Mach
Opening Night of New Braden Field Tennis Courts – Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Herling and Ms. Mach
Prince George’s Envisioning Subgroup Session – Mr. Herling
American Legion Public Safety Awards – Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Herling, Ms. Mach, Ms. Pope and Mr. Putens
Halloween Parade – Mayor Davis, Mr. Jordan, Ms. Mach, Ms. Pope and Mr. Putens
Prince George’s County Chamber of Commerce Meet & Greet – Mr. Jordan
Council of Government (COG) Region Forward Coalition Meeting – Mr. Jordan
Franklin Park International Day – Mr. Herling, Mr. Jordan and Ms. Mach
Pumpkin Walk – Mayor Davis and Mr. Roberts
Veterans Day Ceremony – All Councilmembers
Maryland Department of Planning Education Course – Mr. Jordan
Anacostia Watershed Partnership Steering Committee Meeting – Mayor Davis
Community Performing Arts Festival at Eleanor Roosevelt High School – Mayor Davis
Friends Community School Expansion Groundbreaking Ceremony – Mayor Davis
U.S. District Court Lecture by Honorable Judge Breyer – Mayor Davis and Mr. Jordan
Magnolia Elementary School Student Council Induction Ceremony – Mayor Davis
Capitol Heights Veterans Day Ceremony – Mayor Davis
Greenbelt Restaurant Week – Mayor Davis

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

LEGISLATION: None

GREENBELT SOUTH CORE COVENANT REVISIONS

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments.

Mr. Putens moved that Council approve the revised property covenants for Greenbelt Station South Core as proposed by staff. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Orleans, Greenbelt, asked and was provided answers to several questions.

COUNTY LEGISLATION

CB-83-2012 (COMPLETE AND GREEN STREETS POLICY)

Mayor Davis moved that Council support CB-83-2012. Mr. Putens seconded.

Mr. Herling suggested underpasses and overpasses be included in the legislation. Mayor Davis asked that this be noted with the City's support of the legislation.

The motion passed 7-0.

CB-87-2012 (COUNTY RECYCLING PROGRAM)

Mayor Davis and Ms. Mach commented on their support for strengthening the recycling requirements for multifamily facilities but noted that enforcement was needed for the success of the proposed program. They mentioned that the County has only one inspector responsible for the entire County. Ms. Mach also said the bill does not include mention of "cooperatives" where single and multifamily rental facilities and condominiums are referenced.

Ms. Mach moved that Council support CB-87-2012 and requested the letter of support note that an adequate number of inspectors are needed for the recycling program and that cooperatives need to be included in Section 21-49 of the bill where single and multifamily rental facilities and condominiums are referenced. Mr. Jordan seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

PIT BULL LEGISLATION

Mayor Davis read the agenda comments. Mr. Putens expressed concern about a new ruling by the Maryland Court of Appeals regarding the limits of liability in pit bull bite incidents. He said it appears the ruling extends liability beyond the owner or landlord to homeowners associations, cooperatives, and condominium associations.

Mr. Shay said the ruling has not yet been extended to beyond the property owner or landlord but agreed it could open the door for this possibility in the future if homeowners associations, cooperatives, and condominium associations were aware there was a pit bull on their property.

After further discussion, Mr. Putens requested this item be added to the agenda for the upcoming legislative dinner. Mr. Shay suggested the legislature could enact a bill to make clear the responsible parties and the limits of their liability in this type of scenario.

OTHER REPORTS: Councilmembers presented reports on the following meetings and conferences they recently attended.

Ms. Mach – Metropolitan Washington Council of Government (COG) Air Quality Meeting

Mayor Davis – Anacostia Watershed Partnership Steering Committee Meeting

MEETINGS: Council reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Mach moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Putens seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Davis adjourned the regular meeting of Tuesday, November 13, 2012, at 9:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Murray
City Clerk

"I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct report of the regular meeting of the City Council of Greenbelt, Maryland, held November 13, 2012."

Judith F. Davis
Mayor